Melbourne Knights

OFFICIAL MATCHDAY MAGAZINE **$2.00**

Round 26

Sunday 8th April 2001
• Kick-off 6.00pm

Melbourne Knights
v
Adelaide City Force

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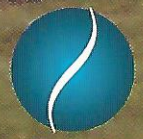

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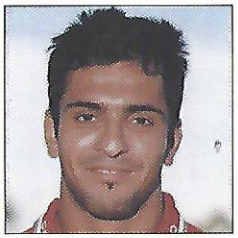

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Disclaimer: the opinions expressed in this program do not necessarily reflect those of the Melbourne Knights Soccer Club.

Stabber's Soapbox

Obviously I was a bit nervous before the game because Northern Spirit is a pretty good team, but the boys dug in really well in it was a total team performance and in the end it could have been a lot more.

Daniel Vasilevski's out for another week or two, but Andy Vargas and Adrian Cervinski could be available today. They'll probably come into the squad but I wouldn't guarantee them a position in the eleven after last week's win.

In terms of our depth, If anything we've probably got too many players, but it's always good to have depth and thank God we don't have too many injuries, but even if we did I'm sure we've got players who could cover that.

I think a win today can guarantee our top six spot, it's virtually like a grand final for us. Well be approaching it the same as last week and if we play nearly as good as last week I'm sure we'll be able to overcome Adelaide without a problem.

For our fans, I just urge you to be patient with the boys, and don't get on their backs all the time when something goes wrong. Just be patient and if you back us all the way we'll deliver the goods.

Coach
andrew marth

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Knights news

Huge Easter Disco @ Knights Stadium

The Melbourne Knights will be holding an Easter Disco at the club on Easter Sunday. The disco will be held in the Batcave with a marquee also being fitted for the occasion, just outside the Batcave.

Popular new band Magla will be performing for the crowd, and it promises to be a HUGE night.

See you all there!!!

Knights assured place in NSL

Many Melbourne Knights fans would have been surprised to see the club ranked fourth on Soccer Australia's list which outlines the plans for next season's restructured 12-team competition.

The Knights only ranked behind South Melbourne, Perth Glory and Adelaide City Force, with Sydney United surprisingly in fifth position.

The ranking system was made up largely of financial credibility, and the results reflect the wonderful job that the current committee has done in restoring the club's prosperity. It was well documented that the current committee was appointed when the Knights had huge debts hanging over its head, so it's a credit to the whole group for their dedication over the past two seasons.

Despite the Knights' place being assured for next season, it's no excuse for our fans to now sit back and cruise along. We now have to work harder than ever to maintain that the Knights are never in this situation again, and with the club about to mount its first finals challenge for years, it's time for supporters to make themselves count.

NSL Restructure Process:

1.	Perth Glory	43
2.	South Melbourne	39
3.	Adelaide City Force	34
4.	**Melbourne Knights**	**33**
5.	Sydney United	32
6.	Newcastle United	30
6.	Parramatta Power	30
8	Sydney Olympic	28
8.	Wollongong Wolves	28
10.	Marconi Stallions	26
11.	Northern Spirit	23
12.	Brisbane Strikers	13
13.	Kingz FC	5

Cosmos stunned by rankings

Canberra officials are "stunned and bewildered' after the Cosmos – along with the Eastern Pride – were told they are not considered "going concerns" for the new-look NSL.

Both clubs received the dreaded news after Soccer Australia's board met on Saturday to discuss clubs' applications for inclusion in next season's 12-team competition.

While the judgement is almost certainly a dagger through the heart for the Cosmos and the Pride, SA said both clubs had been given until April 23 to appeal the decision.

"The Canberra board will be meeting soon to decide how Cosmos will respond to the review committee's decision.

CANBERRA COSMOS F.C.

"There will be no further official comment or statements at this time." So far there has been no response from Eastern Pride, which currently languishes at the bottom of the NSL ladder and has struggled all season to pay its players.

SA was also keeping tight-lipped this evening other than to confirm that once any appeals have been heard, its board will meet again to decide on the final composition of the 2001-2002 competition.

However another team that could be struggling is the Brisbane Strikers after finishing second last in the review of the 13 other clubs.

The only team to finish below the Strikers - on a ranking list made up mostly on financial credibility - was New Zealand's only NSL club, the Kingz FC.

But the Kingz cannot be axed from the competition as they have guaranteed tenure until at least the end of next season.

Surprisingly, Northern Spirit is also in danger of exclusion from next year's competition having only finished one place above the Strikers in the rankings, despite the fact that the Sydney outfit is bankrolled by one of Europe's richest clubs, Glasgow Rangers.

Socceroos kick off World Cup qualifiers

It's World Cup Qualifying time in Coffs Harbour, and the LG Socceroos need your support!

Pull on that green and gold jersey, go to Coffs Harbour and get behind our Aussies – this is the beginning of their trip to the 2002 FIFA World Cup!

AUSTRALIA will face TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI and AMERICAN SAMOA at the Coffs Harbour International Sports Stadium, with the tournament set to run April 7 to April 16.

Tickets can be purchased by calling the COFFS HARBOUR SOCCER TICKET HOTLINE on:- Phone - (02) 6658 5797 or (02) 6658 5798.

Ticket prices for the entire tournament, including the bonus ticket option, are:-

Grandstand seating (limited numbers available) - $16.50 (Outer) Adult - $11.00 (Outer) Child - $ 5.50 (Outer) Family (2 Adults plus 2 Children) - $25.00

Bonus ticket option – purchase a ticket for 4 (four) evenings and receive a 5th (fifth) evening ticket for free.

The Full Draw for Group 1

Matches is:-
SATURDAY, 7 APRIL
SAMOA Vs TONGA
FIJI Vs AMERICAN SAMOA
AUSTRALIA - BYE
MONDAY, 9 APRIL
TONGA Vs AUSTRALIA
AMERICAN SAMOA Vs SAMOA
FIJI - BYE
WEDNESDAY, 11 APRIL
SAMOA Vs FIJI
AUSTRALIA Vs AMERICAN SAMOA
TONGA - BYE
SATURDAY, 14 APRIL
FIJI Vs AUSTRALIA AMERICAN SAMOA Vs TONGA
SAMOA - BYE
MONDAY, 16 APRIL
AUSTRALIA Vs SAMOA
TONGA Vs FIJI
AMERICAN SAMOA - BYE

The Winner of Group 1 will go on to meet the Winner of Group 2, in a 2-legged play-off in June.

Around the Grounds

Chelsea kicked off its season with a disappointing 2-1 loss away to Nunawading City.

Substitute Danny Pincic was the sole goalscorer for Chelsea with a spectacular 20 metre effort to equalise midway through the second half, but a last gasp goal for Nunawading saw them have a first up win.

Chelsea was missing the likes of Adam Jelic and Greg Pincic (Melbourne Knights Youth) for various reasons, but with their return the club is confident of mounting a serious challenge for promotion.

HNK Chelsea Hajduk Soccer Club is organising its annual GOOD FRIDAY DINNER.

Calamari and various other sorts of seafood is available and reservations are ESSENTIAL due to the demand.

Dinner starts @ 5pm and bookings can be made through the club (AH) during the week on 9772 9625. Or you can call Ana Kovacic on 9795 8122.

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Traditional Easter Monday Disco

On Monday April 16th, 2001

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Round 4 – Glenroy Split v Sydenham Park
Billy Vojtek Reserve, Broadmeadows Secondary College (Melway ref: 6-K7)

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Seniors:

Coach:	Marin Radobuljac
Team Manager:	Zac Peric
Captain:	Robert Malovic
Vice Captains:	Steve Kasul, David Pervan

Reserves:

Coach:	Steve Sinkovic
Team Manager:	Zac Peric
Captain:	Nik Coric
Vice Captains:	Emil Beram, Frank Jelincic

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Last week's match

The Melbourne Knights cast aside a week of turmoil in their coaching ranks to humiliate Northern Spirit 4-1 at North Sydney Oval last week.

Andrew Marth, at the helm for the first time for the Knights, decided to employ an attacking brand of soccer and it worked, as the Knights controlled the game from the outset.

The Knights took total control midway through the half, and the opener came when a wonderful Toto Da Costa cross found Rodrigo Vargas who headed home his first ever NSL goal.

Two minutes later, midfielder Lubo Lapsansky made it 2-0 with a curling strike from a penalty.

In the 66th minute, the Knights put the result beyond doubt when Marth hit the crossbar on his first attempt and then hit the deck only for Da Costa to pass him the ball as his coach lay on the ground. But Marth took it in his stride and put away the visitors' third for the evening, whilst Joel Porter scored a fourth for a much needed victory approaching the business end of the season.

Northern Spirit 1 - 4 **Melbourne Knights**

S Howson 73'

R Vargas 20'
L Lapsansky 23'
A Marth 67'
J Porter 76'

20	Paul Henderson (gk)	20	Lupce Acevski (gk)
2	Micheal Cunico	3	Rodrigo Vargas
4	Matthew Bingley	4	Sasa Ognenovski
6	Scott Thomas	8	Dragi Nastevski
8	Robert Enes	9	Joel Porter
11	Troy Cranney	16	Alex Kiratzoglou
12	Ben Burgess	22	Toto Da Costa (19 Anthony Pelikan 88')
17	Lee Feeney	23	Steve Horvat (5 Jason Vukadin 46')
19	Ryan Griffthis (18 D Watkins 59')	26	Andrew Marth
25	Craig Foster	27	Ivan Jolic
27	Stuart Howson	28	Lubo Lapsanksy (6 Joey Rajher 82')

Referee: Peter Green

Cautions

C Foster 28'
T Cranney 29' L Feeney 40'

TEAM STATS

Northern Spirit	HEAD TO HEAD	*Melbourne Knights*
1	Goals	4
18	Goal Attempts	16
7	Attempts on Target	7
1	Attempts Blocked	3
1	Attempts Against Woodwork	1
3	Corners	4
31	Total Crosses	33
11	Successful Crosses	14
17	Fouls Conceded	21
1	Offsides	3
3	Yellow Cards	0
1	Red Cards	0

SPORTS mart

Rodrigo Vargas: Solid as a rock!

By David Davutovic

Rodrigo Vargas is will be lining up for his 49th NSL game today against Adelaide City Force, and he remains one of the star players in a star-studded line up.

The pony-tailed defender will be the first to admit that nobody has been ranting or raving about his performances, but his consistency can't be highlighted any more than by the fact that he has not yet missed a game this season.

Rodrigo Vargas is one of the few players to have played every game this season.

Vargas received the coveted U/21 Victorian Premier League (VPL) Player Of the Year award with Port Melbourne playing in the sweeper role, the season before he joined the Knights. He was damaging coming off the backline and constructing attacking raids for his club, and his first NSL goal last week against Northern Spirit may be just the confidence boost he needs to become an attacking menace for opposition sides.

David Davutovic crossed in a few questions for 22-year-old whose form is proving ominous for opposition attackers and defenders alike.

DD:You scored your first NSL goal on the weekend, run through the goal.

RV: It was a counter attack and 'Stabber' stayed back so I pushed forward and the ball was played out wide to Toto (Da Costa) and he just whipped a cross into the six yard box and I was just there to put it in. I mean it was a perfect ball, it was harder to miss than to score.

DD: Did the goal have anything to do with the change of coaches in the sense that Andrew Marth has instructed you to attack more?

RV: Not really, it was one of those spontaneous things, the ball broke and I just saw an opportunity to go forward and before that we were on the back foot defending and I was one of the closest players there so it just happened that way.

DD: It's your second NSL season and you seem to be getting better with each match. Are you happy with your progress?

RV: Yeah, what I'm most happy with and what I try and keep up is my consistency. I just try and do my job every week rather than playing well one week and bad another, but it's been pretty good. I've played every game this year and as a defender you don't look for the headlines, but a player knows himself if he's played well, and I'm happy so far.

DD: In the Victorian Premier League with Port Melbourne you were very influential joining in the attack as a sweeper, although at the Knights we have only seen glimpses of it. Is it a confidence thing or has it been a specific instruction for you to sit back?

RV: It's not a specific thing that's been said to me, to stay back, it's more myself where we had a lot of experienced players with 'Stabber' and (Steve) Horvat playing in the backline who like to go forward. So just for myself I like to do the defensive quality first rather than attack. With corners I'll stay back, but if I get a chance to go forward I go, but I concentrate on doing my defensive work first.

Vargas scored his first NSL goal against Northern Spirit last week.

DD: What has the change of coach done for the Knights squad?

RV: It's hard to say, I mean it's good when you get somebody new because it automatically changes things and adds a bit of excitement and it's a clean slate for everyone I guess and everyone starts from scratch now. But there was a feeling from some of the players that 'Stabber' was just going to be one of the boys. He still is one of the boys but he's asserting himself as a coach as well, like there's no nonsense when he talks and that so I can't see there being a problem. He's been great.

DD: How do you rate the squad's chances of making the six, and realistically, how far could you go if you were to make it?

RV: The chances of making the six are very good. Today's game is important because if we win we will almost certainly be there and with the 'bye' still to come, which are another three points. Once we get to the finals anything can happen, but I think we've got the quality there to hopefully if we're lucky go all the way. I guess now we've got a lot of experience and I just think our fitness and our pace up front are our strong point. We're definitely one of the fittest teams in the NSL, and we've got a lot of pace and explosive power up there with Da Costa and (Joel) Porter.

DD: You're coming out of contract at the end of the season. What are your future plans and can you give the Knights fans some good news?

RV: I'd just like to concentrate on the last couple of weeks and see what happens, and hopefully if we can keep a good team together and make the finals and see how far we go, then I'd love to stay at the Knights for another year. If we keep basically the same squad, then there's plenty to look forward to next year. But you know how it is as a soccer player and you've got to keep your options open. I'd like to play overseas one day, but if I were to stay in Australia I'd most likely stay in Melbourne.

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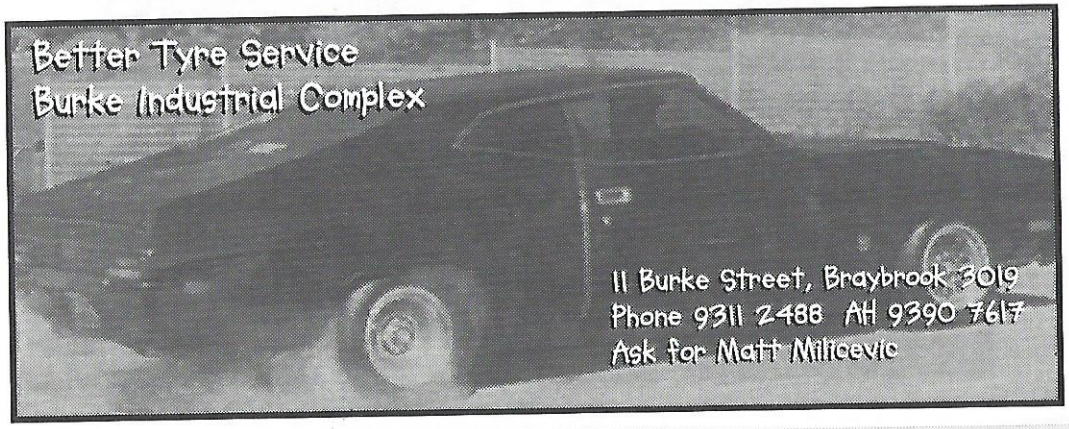

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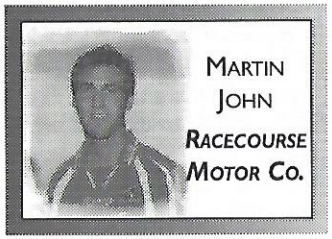
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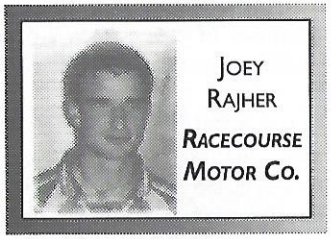
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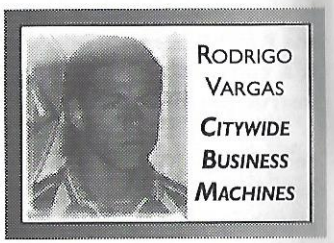
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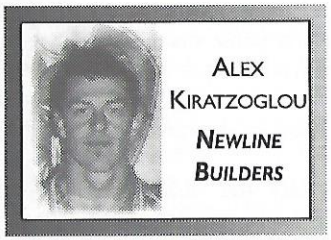
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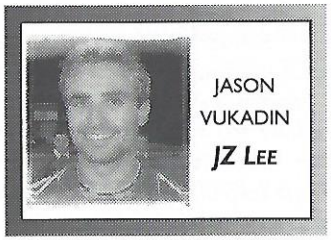
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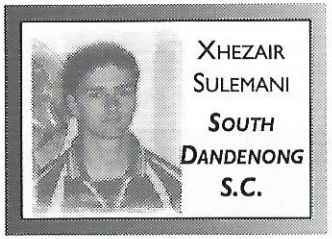
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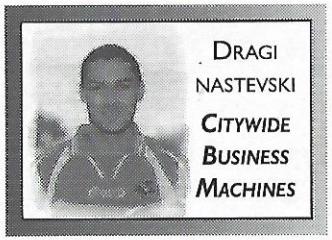
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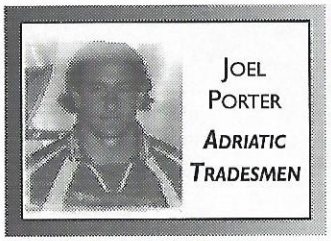
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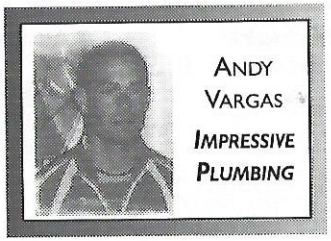
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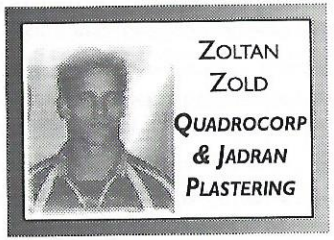
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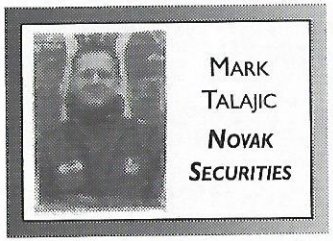
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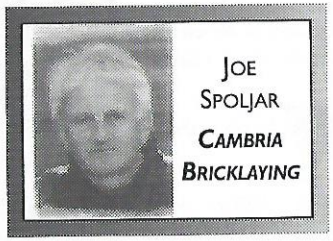
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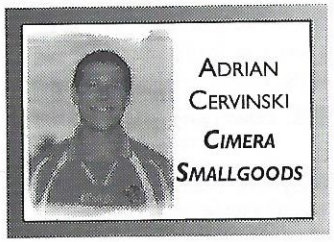
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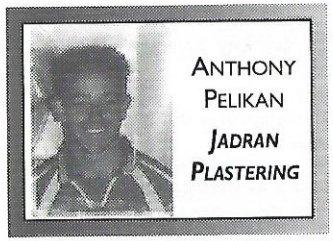
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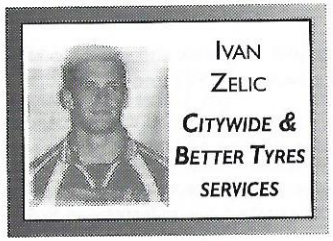
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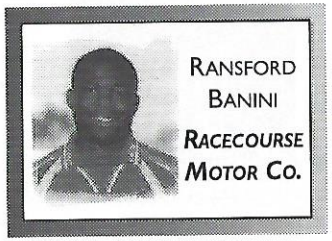
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Opposition Focus

ADELAIDE CITY FORCE SQUAD FOR TODAY'S MATCH

A Cagalj (gk), G Lagati, A Kovacevic, L Brain, C Veart, B Hassell, S Tunbridge, K Rees, L Pantelis, C Pelosi, D Terminello, I Karlovic, N Budin, A Goulding, D Godley (gk)

Adelaide City Force are making their standard late run into the finals series. They've made a habit of sneaking into the finals at the last minute, especially under the guidance of Zoran Matic, but with a relatively inexperienced squad they weren't expected to this season.

It's been the second string players that have helped the Force maintain their spot just outside the six, with the likes of Scott Tunbridge, Ivan Karlovic and Gianluca Lagati proving valuable performers throughout the season.

Their 2000/01 season will rest largely on the result of today's game. A win will put them level on points with the Knights, whilst a draw or a loss will put them 'behind the eight ball' with both the Knights and sixth-placed Marconi guaranteed three more points in the coming weeks with a 'Bye'.

Don't discount Matic's troops, but a revitalised Knights outfit will be no pushover.

Claudio Pelosi will have to be watched closely by the Knights defence, as he has a habit of popping and scoring vital goals.

Zoran Matic - NSL coaching career

Zoran Matic's NSL coaching record is unmatched.

Matches: 422
Clubs: Adelaide City, Collingwood Warriors, Marconi Stallions
Record: *186 wins, 112 draws, 124 losses*

Zoran Matic was born in Yugoslavia and played for Yugoslav clubs Crvenka, Leskovac, Uzica and Hajduk Kula.

He played 38 games and scored one goal in the NSL with Adelaide City Force between 1977 and 1978.

As a coach, he has won three NSL championships and three NSL cups and has also won an NSL coach of the season award.

He was only the second coach in NSL history to have coached 400 games, and he reached the milestone in Round 1 of the current season.

Today's match

By Lance Jenkinson

HEAD TO HEAD (Overall):

Played:	41
Knights wins:	21
Force wins:	11
Draws:	10

HEAD TO HEAD (in Melbourne)

Played:	17 (regular season)
Knights wins:	9
Force wins:	3
Draws:	5

MATCH PREVIEW:

How much is riding on this match? Melbourne Knights are currently sitting in fifth place on 41 points, taking on Adelaide City who cling to seventh spot on 38 points. The final's hopes of both these clubs are hinging on the outcome of this match.

A win for the Knights will see them book their spot in the finals for the first time since 1997, however a loss will force the Knights to scrap away for the rest of the season for the elusive points.

Admittedly, Adelaide City would've been the ones feeling the pressure at training during the week. A win against Marconi at home last week would have seen City jump into sixth place on the ladder, but a scoreless draw saw a golden opportunity go begging.

The South Australians know how to scrape their way through to the finals, having not missed a playoff series for ten years, and the black and whites will want to keep that proud record alive.

Last time the two teams met, five goals were scored between them, City 3-2 victors at Hindmarsh Stadium. If the last match is any indication, you can expect to see another goal feast on the horizon tonight as both teams chase the three points.

Marth will captain-coach his first ever home match in place of Vlado Vanis, who resigned from the position after the Kingz match two weeks ago.

PLAYER TO WATCH:

Ante Kovacevic

Expect the former Melbourne Knights captain to receive a hostile reception from the vocal Somers Street crowd tonight. Ante Kovacevic was a good, honest player for the Knights, but all will be forgotten when he walks out in black and white stripes. He will marshal Adelaide City's defence as he did on so many occasions in a red shirt at Knights Stadium. He has great leadership qualities and always gives 100% for his teammates. If fit, Adrian Cervinski looms as a possible opponent. What a battle that would be between two former teammates.

Former Knights captain Ante Kovacevic could prove a menace in the sweepers position today.

Knights Form Guide (Last 3 matches):

Round 25:	Def	- Northern Spirit 4-1 (a)
Round 24:	Drew	- Football Kingz 2-2 (h)
Round 23:	Drew	- Eastern Pride 2-2 (a)

Adelaide City Form Guide

Round 25:	Drew	- Marconi 1-1 (h)
Round 24:	Drew	- Wollongong Wolves 1-1 (h)
Round 12:	Bye	

IN A NUTSHELL: The team, who wants to play finals football more, will walk home with three points under their belt. Adelaide City's recent form has been solid without adding to their win column on the ladder. While the Knights seem to have been sprung to life by the appointment of Marth as caretaker coach. Come 8pm tonight, we will know a lot more about where these clubs are heading this season.

Youth League Profile

Name:	*Iva Klarica*
D-O-B:	*5/3/83*
School:	*Wellington Secondary College*
Playing Position:	*Stopper/Sweeper*
Started playing:	*Age 9*
Previous Clubs:	*Chelsea Hajduk*
Achievements:	*Victorian Schoolboys 2000* *Australian Schoolboys 2000* *Croatian Tour - 4th place* *Won the Most Achieved school soccer player in the Eastern Region 2000*
Most Admired NSL Player:	*Simon Colosimo*
Most Admired overseas player:	*Mark Viduka, Joe Simunovic*
Favorite Overseas Club:	*Hajduk Split*
Favorite Food:	*Chips*
Favorite Drink:	*Coke*
Favorite TV Show:	*European Football Weekly*
Favorite Movie:	*Don't have one*
Favorite Music:	*Dance, Techno, Cro music*
Favorite Band:	*Major Minor*
Hobbies:	*Soccer*
Ambition:	*To play NSL, then step up*
Major Influences:	*My family and friends*

National Youth League

By Roy Hay

Melbourne Knights Academy 3 Peninsula Blues 0

A hat-trick by Ivan Razov in 24, 29 and 50 minutes gave Melbourne Knights Academy its three-nil win over the Peninsula Blues. The first twenty minutes were very tight, but then the Academy took control to run out a very convincing winner in the end, though the Blues tried hard to stem the flow. Best for the Knights were Masumi Nishida, Ramazan Tavsancioglou and Razov.

Eastern Pride 5 Bulleen Zebras 0

Eastern Pride got back on top of the Southern Division ladder with a five-nil win over Bulleen Zebras at Mobil Stadium. Tony Pardo and Milos Petrevski put the Pride two goals up inside 38 minutes, then Leo Trebbia chimed in with two goals and the final one came from Miles Downie. The Pride was just too strong all round for the young Zebras.

Green Gully 0 Melbourne Knights 4

Melbourne Knights overcame Green Gully by four goals to nil at Green Gully Reserve on Saturday. Adam Petko's strike after 11 minutes was the only goal of the first half, and though the Knights dominated for long spells thereafter it was not till the 72nd minute that Ben Cogger doubled the Knights' lead. Goals by Vangel Cecov in 84 and Tomislav Muretic in 88 made the margin four. Fifteen year old Tony Saric came on as substitute and hit the bar with a shot, the second time he has done that in as many games for the Knights. Christopher Antunovic was another to make an impression, while defender Daniel Piorkowski has been by far the most consistent player for the Knights this season.

Southern Division 2000-01 ~ Round Twenty-Three

Melb Knights Academy 3
(Ivan Razov 3)
Peninsula Blues

Eastern Pride 5
(L Trebbia 2, A Pardo, M Petrevski, M Downie)
Bulleen Zebras 0

Green Gully 0
Melbourne Knights 4
(A Petko, V Cecov, B Cogger, T Muretic)

Albury Wodonga 3
(Q O'Grady, S Vescio, C Mitchell)
Fawkner Blues 4
(M Vonja 2, M Amadeo, M Sajkic)

Leading Goalscorers
Southern Division

26 goals:	Steve Manceski (South Melbourne)
14 goals:	Nick Waite (Carlton Peninsula Blues)
13 goals:	Denis Mustac (Eastern Pride)
12 goals:	Dimitri Tsiaras (Sth Melbourne)
11 goals:	Veton Korcarevski (Sth Dandenong)
10 goals:	Brett Cunningham (Fawkner Blues)
	Aref El Dib (Sth Melb Eagles Acad)
	Robert Dolevski (Preston Lions)

NB This list includes goals scored for and against Carlton/Whittlesea Stallion

National Youth League Ladder

	TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	**Eastern Pride**	**21**	**17**	**2**	**2**	**+55**	**53**
2	**Sth Melb Institute**	**19**	**17**	**0**	**2**	**+81**	**51**
3	**Melbourne Knights**	**20**	**13**	**1**	**6**	**+34**	**40**
4	**VIS**	**22**	**12**	**4**	**6**	**+19**	**40**
5	**Peninsula Blues**	**19**	**11**	**1**	**7**	**+17**	**34**
6	Melbourne Knights Academy	19	10	1	8	-2	31
7	South Dandenong	18	8	3	7	-1	27
8	South Melb Eagles Academy	19	7	2	10	-12	23
9	Green Gully Cavaliers	20	6	4	10	-12	22
10	Albury Wodonga	20	3	4	13	-34	13
11	Bulleen Zebras	20	3	4	13	-36	13
12	Fawkner Blues	20	3	1	15	-40	13
12	Preston Lions	19	3	1	15	-71	10

Carlton/Whittlesea Stallions withdrawn from league

Knights Merchandise

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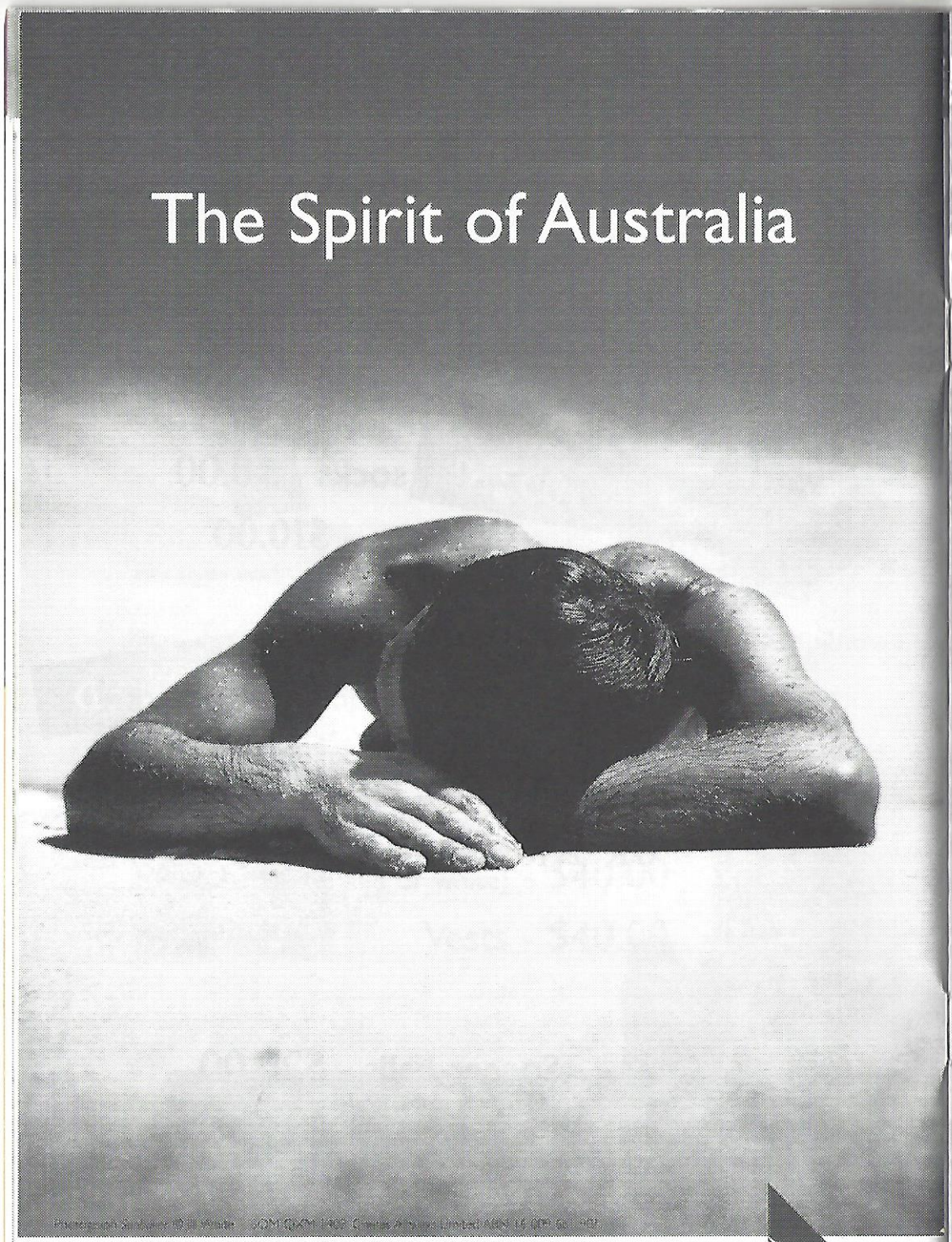

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Vlado, take a bow

By Lance Jenkinson

Vlado Vanis has turned the Melbourne Knights around in the space of 16 months, pulling them from virtual cellar dwellars finals contenders with limited resources and a minimum amount of fuss.

Nicknamed the "Moose" for his rugged style of defensive play in Canada, Vanis has instilled a work ethic and a tough attitude into the Knights that was seriously lacking before he took over the reigns from Josip Biskic in round seven last season.

Vanis always made his feelings known to the players. If he was not happy with something, he'd certainly let them know about it and it was his no-nonsense approach that helped him get positive results.

Over the past two seasons, I can't remember a Knights team that lost a match through laziness or lack of fitness. Skill errors at times may have let the team down, but fitness was one of the 'Moose's main characteristics. You would just have to ask some of the players after a gruelling training run.

The thing that was special about Vanis was he was a very courageous coach and he was prepared to take a punt at the recruiting table by picking up unknown youngsters. He risked his job for the future of the Knights and he must be complimented for this.

Sasa Ognenovski from Victorian Premier League club Preston Lions and Joel Porter from South Australian Premier League club Croydon Kings are the first players which spring to mind. They were plucked out of the wilderness and have turned into regular and more than capable National Soccer League players.

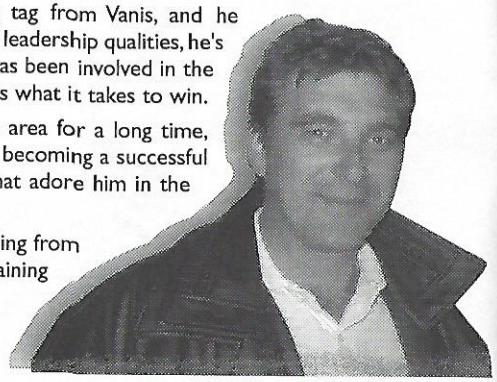
He has also stuck by players like Rody Vargas and Alex Kiratzoglou, and has aided them in improving their respective games and gaining more consistency. These sorts of players may now have the opportunity to play with a big club overseas, largely due to the Vanis influence.

The downfall of Carlton, although no one would have predicted at the time, was also the beginning of Vanis' gradual decline. The induction of four Carlton players, three of whom are great leaders in Andrew Marth, Steve Horvat and Lubo Lapsansky, may have broken the special bond Vanis had with the 'baby Knights'. It's fair to say his leadership was taken over by the likes of Marth, Horvat and Lapsansky, and it was as though Vanis had turned from father to grandfather when the Knights acquired the experienced trio.

In his short stint as coach, Vanis might not have won a Premiership. But he's given the club a huge future by blooding and working with his young troops. He has also bred an exciting team, one that's enjoyable to watch from a spectator perspective. A fast and attacking style, which is strange, as he was a defender himself.

The 'Moose's head was on the chopping block on countless occasions during his coaching stint. He defied the odds by lasting this long at a club that is notorious for sacking coaches after a string of bad results.

Captain Marth has now taken over the coaching tag from Vanis, and he possesses everything a coach could only dream of. He has leadership qualities, he's a great communicator, has exceptional playing skills and has been involved in the successful Knights teams of the mid-nineties. So he knows what it takes to win.



Being around the Knights and living in the Sunshine area for a long time, means he knows the culture of the club, which is vital to becoming a successful coach and person. He has the full support of the fans that adore him in the terraces, which is a big plus.

Marth would have learn't a bit from Vanis since crossing from Carlton. His first lesson was that a win starts from the training track.

Marth has invested a great crop of young players, a team that has the capabilities of creating another decade of success at Somers Street

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Welcome Aboard in Season 2000/01

Fixtures & Results

Round 1 - Saturday, October 14
Brisbane Strikers 1 (Grierson 58')
Melbourne Knights 2 (A.Vargas 41', Sulemani 69')
Suncorp Metway Stadium. Crowd: 2,349

Round 2 - Sunday, October 22
Melbourne Knights 2 (Kiratzoglou 44', Porter 55')
Parramatta Power 1 (Griffiths 75' pen)
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 5,980

Round 3 - Saturday, October 28
Canberra Cosmos 3 (Hagger 52', Scott 63', Castro 77')
Melbourne Knights 0
Bruce Stadium. Crowd: 1,550

Round 4 - Sunday, November 5
Melbourne Knights 1 (Da Costa 79')
Wollongong Wolves 2 (Horsely 41', Reid 42')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,863

Round 5 - Sunday, November 12
South Melbourne 4
(Trimboli 14' pen, 32' pen, Panapoulos 49', Boutsianis 60')
Melbourne Knights 1 (Da Costa 85')
Bob Jane Stadium. Crowd: 10.623

Round 6 - Sunday, November 19
Melbourne Knights 4
(A.Vargas 13', Da Costa 25', Porter 50', Kiratzoglou 65')
Sydney United 0
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 5,180

Round 7 - Sunday, November 26
Sydney Olympic 1 (Goutzioulis 93')
Melbourne Knights 0
Belmore Sports Ground. Crowd: 6,182

Round 8 - Sunday, December 3
Melbourne Knights 2 (Cervinski 54', A.Vargas 93')
Eastern Pride 1 (Magdic O.G. 51')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,178

Round 9 - Friday, December 8
Kingz FC 2 (Burton 84', Rufer 88')
Melbourne Knights 2 (Kiratzoglou 33', Cervinski 89')
Ericsson Stadium. Crowd: 5,559

Round 10 - Sunday, December 17
Melbourne Knights 1 (Porter 65')
Northern Spirit 1 (Burgess 48')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,320

Round 11 - Friday, December 22
Adelaide City Force 3
(Vidmar 5', Tunbridge 17', Pantelis 83')
Melbourne Knights 2 (Marth 43' pen, Porter 75')
Hindmarsh Stadium. Crowd: 3,930

Round 12 - Sunday, December 30
Melbourne Knights 1 (Da Costa 17')
Perth Glory 1 (Milicevic 13')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,871

Round 13
Melbourne Knights vs. BYE

Round 14 - Sunday, January 14
Melbourne Knights 1 (Porter 38')
Marconi Stallions 4
(Thompson 51', 67', Care 72', Brownlie 80')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,287

Round 15 - Friday, January 19
Newcastle United 1 (Buonavoglia 61')
Melbourne Knights 5 (Da Costa 1', 14', Porter 8', Marth 47', Cervinski 84')
Marathon Stadium. Crowd: 6,875

Round 16 - Sunday, January 28
Melbourne Knights 2 (Marth 57' pen, Cervinski 77')
Brisbane Strikers 1 (Harris 59')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,728

Round 17 - Friday, February 2
Parramatta Power 1 (Blagojevic 85')
Melbourne Knights 3 (Cervinski 1', 68', 86')
Parramatta Stadium. Crowd: 2,475

Round 18 - Sunday, February 11
Melbourne Knights 2 (Da Costa 16', Porter 65')
Canberra Cosmos 0
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,098

Round 19 - Saturday, February 17
Wollongong Wolves 5
(Young 17', 65', Petrovski 26', 60', Chipperfield 73')
Melbourne Knights 2 (Marth 24', Cervinski 75')
WIN Stadium. Crowd: 5,459

Round 20 - Friday, February 23 7.30pm
Melbourne Knights 4 (Da Costa 17', Cervinski 19', Porter 21', Lapsansky 54')
South Melbourne 0
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 7,320

Round 21 - Sunday, March 4 4pm
Sydney United 0
Melbourne Knights 1(Porter 24')
Sydney United Sports Centre. Crowd: 4,218

Round 22 - Friday, March 9 7.30pm
Melbourne Knights 2 (Cervinski 40', Da Costa 66')
Sydney Olympic 3
(Marusic 09', Augerinos 52', Cardozo 77')
Knights Stadium. Crowd: 4,321

Round 23 - Saturday, March 17 7pm
Eastern Pride 2 (Sekulovski 23' pen, Fak 90')
Melbourne Knights 2 (Kiratzoglou 53', Da Costa 55')
Mobil Park. Crowd: 1,161

Round 24 - Sunday, March 25 6pm
Melbourne Knights 2 (Rajher 10', Pelikan 54')
Kingz FC 2 (Ibrahim 16', Lines 73')
Knights Stadium. Crowd 5,226

Round 25 - Friday, March 30 7.30pm
Northern Spirit 1 (S Howson 73')
Melbourne Knights 4
(R Vargas 20', Lapsansky 23', Marth 67', Porter 76')
Nth Sydney Oval. Crowd 3,119

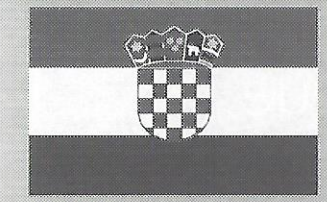
Round 26 - Sunday, April 8 6pm
Melbourne Knights
Adelaide City Force
Knights Stadium.

Round 27 - Saturday, April 14 7pm
Perth Glory
Melbourne Knights
Perth Oval.

Round 28
Melbourne Knights v BYE

Round 29 - Wednesday, April 25 7pm
Marconi Stallions
Melbourne Knights
Marconi Stadium.

Round 30 - Sunday, April 29 3pm
Melbourne Knights
Newcastle United
Knights Stadium.



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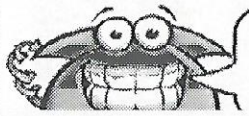

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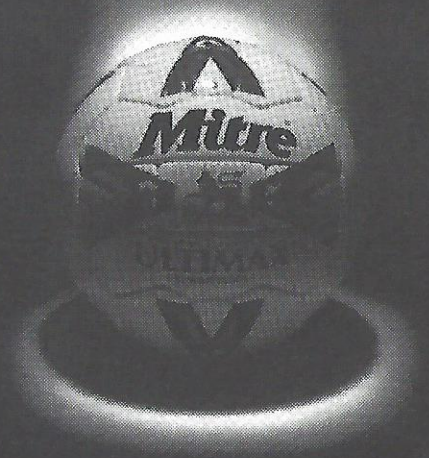

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Who said that????

"On Thursday night at training, before the Northern Spirit game, everyone was buzzing and the intensity was up. Everyone wanted to train and everyone was lively, it was just different."
- Injured midfielder Daniel Vasilevski on the final training session before the Northern Spirit match last Friday night.

"I wish the boys the best of luck and I've left a good bunch of boys behind. I believe in them and I think they'll be there at the end of the season."
- Former coach Vlado Vanis with a final message for his former troops.

"A positional change in any organisation brings an element of excitement, and that that's what it basically boils down to."
- Andrew Marth on how his appointment as senior coach.

"Everyone has picked up the pace a bit and everyone is fighting for their positions again."
- Andy Vargas on the coaching change at Knights Stadium.

"Going to Melbourne Knights' home ground is always a tough assignment. This time is even tougher because they are looking at taking us off the chasing list."
- Adelaide City Force coach Zoran Matic on today's blockbuster.

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notice

1. Entry inside the perimeter fence of the playing area is prohibited at all times and offenders will be prosecuted.
2. All spectators are requested to vacate the ground within 15 minutes of the final game.
3. Police may be requested to remove any unauthorised persons who remain after the stipulated time.
4. The setting alight of, or the igniting or discharging of any type of object, including fireworks, signal or smoke flares is strictly prohibited.

Review - Round 25

Kingz FC 3 (D Ibrahim 28', 38', 43', pen)
Brisbane Strikers 2 (F Rech 23', J Harris 52')
Venue: Ericsson Stadium
Crowd: 4,891

Adelaide City Force 0
Marconi Stallions 0
Venue: Hindmarsh Stadium
Crowd: 3,896

Eastern Pride 2 (N Sekulovski 06', R Puca 39')
Parramatta Power 1 (C Bell own goal 70')
Venue: Mobile Park
Crowd: 763

Sydney Olympic 3
(A Juric 54', P Cardozo 72' pen, L Wilson 86')
Canberra Cosmos 1
(A Castro 40')
Venue: Belmore Sports Ground
Crowd: 4,428

Sydney United 1 (G Talevski 76')
Wollongong Wolves 1 (D Huxley 50')
Venue: Sydney United Sport Centre
Crowd: 4,235

South Melbourne 1 (J Anastasiadis 69')
Newcastle United 0
Venue: Bob Jane Stadium
Crowd: 5,567

Northern Spirit 1 (S Howson 73')
Melbourne Knights 4 (R Vargas 20', L Lapsansky 23', A Marth 67, J Porter 76')
Venue: North Sydney Oval
Crowd: 3,119

Round 26 Fixture (played on Wed 4/4/01)
South Melbourne 3
(A Vlahos 6', C Boutsianis 42', V Kalogeracos 48')
Sydney United 1 (C Menapi 25')
Venue: Bob Jane Stadium
Crowd: 5,025

NSL Ladder

	TEAM	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	**South Melbourne**	26	16	5	3	+34	59
2	**Sydney Olympic**	25	14	4	5	+21	52
3	**Perth Glory**	25	12	7	4	+32	49
4	**Wollongong Wolves**	25	12	7	4	+28	49
5	**Melbourne Knights**	25	11	5	8	+9	41
6	**Marconi Stallions**	25	10	7	8	+6	40
7	Adelaide City Force	25	9	5	9	-1	38
8	Sydney United	26	8	6	10	-9	36
9	Kingz FC	25	7	7	9	+1	34
10	Parramatta Power	25	9	2	13	-5	32
11	Northern Spirit	25	6	6	11	-2	30
12	Brisbane Strikers	25	7	6	11	-3	30
13	Canberra Cosmos	25	6	4	13	-5	28
14	Newcastle United	25	4	8	12	-22	23
15	Eastern Pride	25	3	5	15	-11	20

Leading Goalscorers:

Bobby Despotovski (*Perth Glory*)	16
Damian Mori (*Perth Glory*)	16
Ben Burgess (*Northern Spirit*)	14
Saso Petrovski (*W'gong Wolves*)	14
Scott Chipperfield (*W'gong Wolves*)	12
Archie Thompson (*Marconi*)	12
Stuart Young (*W'gong Wolves*)	12
Andrew Vlahos (*South Melbourne*)	11
Adrian Cervinksi (*Melb Knights*)	**10**
Toto Da Costa (*Melb Knights*)	**10**
Scott Tunbridge (*Adelaide City Force*)	10

Knights Abroad

- **DANNY TIATTO** was sent from the field, after picking up his second caution in the space of three minutes, as Manchester City lost 3-1 at home to Aston Villa, the loss keeping City in the relegation zone, in 18th place. Tiatto has done extremely well to curb his temper this season, despite opposition fans constantly pestering him about his disciplinary record.

- Socceroo sharpshooter **MARK VIDUKA** played a full game, and scored his twentieth goal of the season in the 90th minute as Leeds United beat Sunderland 2-0 away from home, to move into third place on the Premiership table. Spanish clubs and Italian giants Roma, AC Milan, Internazionale and Juventus are touting Viduka, but it's been revealed that if Leeds were to qualify for next season's Champions League, he would most likely stay.

- Speedy midfielder **JOSIP SKOKO** played a full match, as Racing Genk beat Harelbeke 2-1 away from home, to remain mid-table in 11th position (from 18)

- **JOEY DIDULICA** again remained on the bench, as Ajax lost 1-0 away to NEC, to remain in 3rd position. It was reported during the week that German giants Borussia Dortmund are preparing to line up a bid for the energetic goalkeeper, so it will be interesting to see whether Ajax will give him a first team run in a bid to keep him in Holland.

- **JOSIP SIMUNIC** came off the bench in the 56th minute, as Hertha Berlin beat TSV 1860 Munich 3-0 at home, the victory keeping Hertha just 3 points from the top of the league, in 5th place. For 1860, Ned Zelic played a full game, the loss keeping 1860 in the bottom half of the league, in 12th position (from 18).

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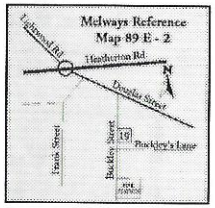

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Player Profile

Name:	*Daniel Vasilevski*
Nickname:	*Vaza*
D-O-B:	*4/9/81*
Star sign:	*Virgo*
Place of birth:	*Melbourne*
Ethnic Origin:	*Macedonian*
Occupation:	*Soccer player*
Marital status:	*Single*
Height:	*176cm*
Weight:	*73kg*
Position:	*Midfield*
Brand soccer boot worn:	*Nike*
Clubs played for:	*Keilor Park, Altona Magic, VIS, AIS, carlton*
Career highlight to date:	*U20 World Youth Cup qualifier*
Favourite actress:	*Meg Ryan*
Favourite TV Personality:	*Buffy*
Favorite TV show:	*Dawsons Creek*
Favorite cartoon character:	*Snoopy*
Favourite magazine:	*Ralph*
Favourite food:	*Calamari Salad*
Favourite drink (non-alcoholic):	*Red Bull*
Favourite drink (alcoholic):	*Vodka, lemon & lime*
Favourite overseas player:	*David Beckham*
Favourite overseas team:	*Manchester United*
Most admired Australian (local):	*Simon Colosimo*
Most admired Australian (OS):	*Harry Kewell*
Most admired coach:	*Steve O'Connor*
Most admired Sportsperson:	*Ian Thorpe*
Major influences:	*Family*
Advice:	*Dream as if you would live forever, live as if you would die tomorrow!!*

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7	Josip KOZIC
8	Dragi NASTEVSKI
9	Joel PORTER
10	Ivan ZELIC
11	Xhezair SULEMANI
13	Antun KOVACIC
14	Paul MAGDIC
15	Ransford BANINI
16	Alex KIRATZOGLOU
17	Ivan RAZOV
18	Andy VARGAS
19	Anthony PELIKAN
20	Lupce ACEVSKI
21	Zoltan ZOLD
22	Toto Da COSTA
23	Steve HORVAT
25	Adrian CERVINSKI
26	Andrew MARTH (C)
27	Ivan JOLIC
28	Lubo LAPSANSKY
29	Robert GRASKOSKI

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2	Gianluca LAGATI
3	Iain FYFE
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